



Ag in Action

July - August 2007

Director
Donald Butler

Editor
Ed Hermes

From the Director's Desk

In this Issue:

Agriculture In-
spectors fight
organized crime 2-3

One ADA In-
vestigator's
fight against
fake ID's 4

Drive to collect
school supplies
a success 5

IT Corner:
Protect yourself
from spyware 6-7

New Hires
8-9

H.A.T.S. Off 9

Update on 2007
Farm Bill 10

Birthdays 11



I want to thank each of you for your thoughts and concerns over the past few weeks regarding my health. I also want to let you know I am doing well and feeling great, but have definitely been missing my work and friends at the Department. Although I have been staying involved in the operations of the Department from Tucson, I am eager to get back into the office.

I know you all have been working hard to regulate and support Arizona agriculture and I commend you for it. Your hard work and dedication to protecting agriculture and the consumers of this state is truly inspiring. Thank you all again for your service and I look forward to seeing you soon.

ADA Inspectors Foil \$1,000,000 Smuggling Attempt

Special training allows agricultural inspectors to spot organized crime activities

On Monday, June 18, 2007, two ADA Plant Services port inspectors caught individuals trying to smuggle \$ \$1,011,630.00 in U.S. currency in a commercial truck-tractor during a routine agricultural inspection at the Sanders Port of Entry inspection station on Interstate 40.

At approximately 6:45 in the morning, a commercial truck unit owned by the JCLL Trucking Company, pulled into Sanders Port of Entry on Interstate 40 westbound. The truck was hauling produce which require inspection by the Arizona Department of Agriculture.



Inspectors from the Plant Services Division conducted a thorough inspection of the load which was a mixture of watermelons and onions. The Inspectors noticed several indicators that led them to be suspicious of the shipment. Inspection papers, rotting produce and inconsistent stories from the driver about the origin of the produce immediately tipped off our inspectors that something was not right. Additionally, the Inspectors observed that the tire rack under the trailer had a brand new spare tire secured with an unusually large padlock.

As a result, the inspectors checked the driver's information through the Motor Vehicle Division who found that the insurance was expired and immediately called DPS due to the suspicious activity.

After the arrival of the DPS and their inspection of the truck, trailer and interview of the occupants, they found \$10,000 in cash located in the passenger section of the tractor. At the urging of the ADA inspectors, DPS examined the spare tire, which upon prying it open was found to have \$1,001,630 in U.S. Currency.

(continued on page 3)



(Above) The semi-truck that was carrying onions and watermelons that was inspected at the Sanders port of entry.

(continued from page 2)

The inspectors were able to spot the tire because of the training they received at the “Desert Snow” training course. Each ADA port inspector receives the three day Highway Criminal Interdiction and Anti-Terrorism Training so that they are trained in methods of concealment frequently used in the drug trade and possible terrorist activities. Although the main objective of ADA’s port inspectors is to ensure that agricultural products are pest free, due to their strategic location and with the training they receive, they are also able to recognize indicators for organized criminal activities.

The three occupants of the truck were taken into custody by DPS officers, interviewed further and later released as the investigation will determine if there are going to be any formal charges against any or all three. The truck-tractor and trailer unit, identified as a 1997 Peterbilt and 1994 Box Trailer, were seized and the produce load will be removed and submitted for destruction because of the deteriorating condition caused by the rotting. The investigation is continuing.

It is believed from the initial stages of the investigation that the large amount of currency resulted from proceeds from an illegally conducted enterprise and the shipment was headed back to the criminal organization.

The skill demonstrated by the ADA Inspectors and DPS Officers demonstrates the common sense cooperative commitment of state agencies in addressing the problems of organized crime. The *Ag in Action* newsletter purposefully did not use the name of these heroic Agricultural Inspectors, but the Department is proud to have them, and all other inspectors looking out for Arizona agriculture and keeping a watchful eye at our ports for suspicious activity.



(Above) Once the tire was removed, officers could immediately tell it was too heavy to contain only air. The tire’s rubber was ripped off to discover over \$1,000,000



(Above) The cash that was discovered by ADA inspectors and DPS officers

ADA Employee Cracks Down on Fraudulent ID's

Three months ago ADA employee, Dave Hilbers, was tapped by the Governor to serve on the Arizona Fraudulent Identification Task Force (AFIT), a multi-agency task force charged with cracking down on Fraudulent ID's. Governor Napolitano commissioned this task force under "Operation Strong Border, Secure Arizona" and charged it with identifying, investigating, and prosecuting manufacturers and sellers of all fraudulent identification in the state. As Dave Hilbers explains, fake ID manufacturing is very important to crack down on because it is so often linked to other major crimes such as human smuggling, car theft, and possibly even terrorism.

Recently, law enforcement officials from this task force served five search warrants at five locations across the state. In one location alone, where two of the search warrants were served, law enforcement officials uncovered an operation that yielded templates and cardstock capable of producing 2,500 resident alien cards; 2,500 social security cards; as well as cardstock to produce fake Arizona and Sonora, Mexico drivers' licenses.

This task force is made up of investigators and law enforcement officials from over a dozen state agencies including the Arizona Department of Agriculture. Hilbers says he enjoys the work of the task force, but admits that cracking down on fraudulent identification and related crimes is a huge undertaking. "Trying to stop these crimes is like throwing rocks into a river to build a dam" Hilbers said, "It seem impossible to make a big impact, but you have to start somewhere."

During one recent sting operation, law enforcement officials went undercover to attempt to purchase fraudulent identification in the name of infamously known world terrorists. Unfortunately, the undercover officials confirmed that fake ID producers had no regard for who they made fraudulent documents for as long as they paid they could pay the small fee. "I realized how easy it was for anyone, even known terrorists to obtain fraudulent identification" said Dave Hilbers when talking about the Fraudulent Identification Task Force's recent bust.

Here are the statistics from a recent operation by the Fraudulent Identification Task Force :

Search Warrants Conducted	Total Defendants	Total Criminal Charges	Total Felony Arrests	Total Felony Charges	Total Misdemeanor Charges
12	16	97	16	97	0

Persons Turned Over To I.C.E	Manufacturer Computer Seizures	Weapon Seizures	Fraudulent Documents Seized	Vehicles Taken	Cash Seizures
8	18	5	446	17	\$47,755

ADA Employees Open Wallets, Hearts to Help Students

Governor, state employees fill a school bus with donated school supplies

On Tuesday July 17th, Governor Janet Napolitano joined employees from more than 30 state Agencies, including the Arizona Department of Agriculture to support Arizona's largest back-to-school supply drive. State employees purchased thousands of brand-new items to donate like backpacks, notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, glue, and other items needed for school.



The event was part of an annual Pack to School campaign held in partnership with the Salvation Army. State employees have been collecting supplies since June 25 and the drive continues through August 3.

Gov. Janet Napolitano stands behind boxes of crayons and notebooks as she congratulates state employees for a collection drive that brought in thousands of donated school supplies for Arizona children

Last year, approximately 7,500 students at 37 Arizona schools benefited from this drive, a goal that state employees are likely to exceed. This year, ADA employees packed five boxes to the brim with school supplies. Employees at the 1688 W. Adams building donated supplies from July 1st until July 16th.

“When I dropped off all the boxes of supplies we had collected I was very proud to be a Department of Agriculture employee,” said Ed Hermes, ADA designee to facilitate the drive. “We collected more supplies than many agencies twice our size!”

Sponsors of this year's Pack to School campaign include Sleep America, FreeScale Semiconductor and Mountainside Fitness. Employees and other community members wishing to contribute to the campaign can drop off donations at any Sleep America or Mountainside Fitness location, as well as at the Salvation Army's Divisional Headquarters located at 2707 E. Van Buren.

IT Corner: Keep 'Spyware' from Spying on You

Spyware is a prevalent problem, and may even be infecting a majority of systems connected to the Internet. It is a problem that continues to grow for organizations and home users alike.

Below are some helpful hints from the MS-ISAC, OnGuard Online and the US-CERT on how you can protect yourself against the threat of spyware.

Recognizing and Avoiding Spyware :

Because of its popularity, the internet has become an ideal target for advertising. As a result, spyware, or adware, has become increasingly prevalent. When troubleshooting problems with your computer, you may discover that the source of the problem is spyware software that has been installed on your machine without your knowledge.

***What is spyware?**

Despite its name, the term "spyware" doesn't refer to something used by undercover operatives, but rather by the advertising industry. In fact, spyware is also known as "adware." It refers to a category of software that, when installed on your computer, may send you pop-up ads, redirect your browser to certain web sites, or monitor the web sites that you visit. Some extreme, invasive versions of spyware may track exactly what keys you type.

Due to extra processing, spyware may cause your computer to become slow or sluggish. There are also privacy implications: What information is being gathered? Who is receiving it? How is it being used?

***How do you know if there is spyware on your computer?**

The following symptoms *may* indicate that spyware is installed on your computer:

you are subject to endless pop-up windows

you are redirected to web sites other than the one you typed into your browser

new, unexpected toolbars appear in your web browser

new, unexpected icons appear in the task tray at the bottom of your screen

your browser's home page suddenly changed

the search engine your browser opens when you click "search" has been changed

certain keys fail to work in your browser (e.g., the tab key doesn't work when you are moving to the next field within a form)

random Windows error messages begin to appear

your computer suddenly seems very slow when opening programs or processing tasks (saving files, etc.)

To avoid unintentionally installing it yourself, follow these good security practices:

Don't click on links within pop-up windows -Because pop-up windows are often a product of spyware, clicking on the window may install spyware software on your computer. To close the pop-up window, click on the "X" icon in the title bar instead of a "close" link within the window.

Choose "no" when asked unexpected questions -Be wary of unexpected dialog boxes asking whether you want to run a particular program or perform another type of task. Always select "no" or "cancel," or close the dialog box by clicking the "X" icon in the title bar.

Be wary of free downloadable software -There are many sites that offer customized toolbars or other features that appeal to users. Don't download programs from sites you don't trust, and realize that you may be exposing your computer to spyware by downloading some of these programs.

Don't follow email links claiming to offer anti-spyware software -Like email viruses, the links may serve the opposite purpose and actually install the spyware it claims to be eliminating.

(continued from page 6)

As an additional good security practice, especially if you are concerned that you might have spyware on your machine and want to minimize the impact, consider taking the following action:

- **Adjust your browser preferences to limit pop-up windows and cookies** -Pop-up windows are often generated by some kind of scripting or active content. Adjusting the settings within your browser to reduce or prevent scripting or active content may reduce the number of pop-up windows that appear. Some browsers offer a specific option to block or limit pop-up windows. Certain types of cookies are sometimes considered spyware because they reveal what web pages you have visited. You can adjust your privacy settings to only allow cookies for the web site you are visiting.

***How do you remove spyware?**

Run a full scan on your computer with your anti-virus software -Some anti-virus software will find and remove spyware, but it may not find the spyware when it is monitoring your computer in real time. Set your anti-virus software to prompt you to run a full scan periodically.

Run a legitimate product specifically designed to remove spyware -Many vendors offer products that will scan your computer for spyware and remove any spyware software. Popular products include Lavasoft's Ad-Aware, Webroot's SpySweeper, PestPatrol, and Spybot Search and Destroy.

**Copyright Carnegie Mellon University, Produced by US-CERT*

Additionally, you should consider the following actions:

Use a firewall. Ensure your system is protected by a network or personal firewall. For home systems, install a personal firewall to stop uninvited users from accessing your computer. A firewall blocks unauthorized access to your computer and, if properly configured, can alert you if spyware already on your computer is sending information out.

Ensure your operating system and its components are updated periodically. Your operating system (like Windows or Linux) and browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Netscape, etc.) generally offers software "patches" to close holes in the system that spyware could exploit. Obtain these patches from your organization, or if your organization does not manage system updates, from the vendor's update site. Similarly, your firewall, anti-virus, and anti-spyware programs and signatures files should also be kept up-to-date. At home, consider using auto-update features to keep your operating systems and programs up to date.

Get Permission. Remember at work to either request the installation through appropriate channels or obtain permission before installing programs on your organization's computers. Also, unlike anti-virus programs, most anti-spyware programs do not interfere with each other's operation, so using more than one anti-spyware program may be an option.

Remain vigilant -No anti-spyware product removes all spyware programs, so you will still need to watch for signs of infection.

For more information:

<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST04-016.html>

<http://onguardonline.gov/spyware.html>

New Hires and Retires

New Hire – Bobby Baker, Agriculture Inspector, PSD

Bobby Baker was born in Hanford, California and moved frequently until 1971 when he came to Arizona. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1977 and spent the next 15 ½ years traveling the world while working in field artillery, security, and administration. After leaving the Marine Corps, Bobby decided to work in law enforcement. He spent the next 12 years with the Yuma County Sheriff's Office as a Detention Officer, Hostage Negotiator, and Programs Coordinator. Bobby is married to Avelina, and they have 6 children (5 daughters and 1 son) and 4 grandchildren. Bobby enjoys his interesting job with the ADA and spending time with his family.



New Hire – Cheri Ware, Administrative Assistant; Plant Services Division in Yuma

Cheri Ware was born and raised in Yuma, Arizona. After high school she joined the U.S. Air Force and lived in Alamogordo, New Mexico and Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England. When she returned to Yuma, Cheri worked for the City of Yuma. Cheri has two beautiful girls; Emily age 6 and Raegan age 2. She enjoys spending time with her girls.

New Hire – Scott Ramsey, Animal Health & Welfare Deputy Inspector; ASD

Scott is a 6th generation native of the valley. He has a rather diverse background in many different fields. He cut his teeth on the family pest control business when he was 12 years old. After graduating from Maryvale High School he attended Phoenix College where he earned his E.M.T. certification. As many people know there is a lot of time off involved with Emergency Medicine and Scott dabbled in many different part time endeavors such as, Loan Officer, Mechanic, Cable Guy and Tele-marketer.

After a few years in the Emergency Medical field he earned his Paramedic certification. Being employed in the E.M.S. field for 8 years the burnout factor kicked in and he expanded his horizons into the world of food. Two years later he graduated from Scottsdale Culinary Institute with a 3.74 GPA and a Degree in Restaurant Management, Culinary Arts. After that he worked in some of the finest kitchens in the valley including the Biltmore Grill. Finding that 9/11 had put a bit of a damper on the hospitality industry making it difficult to pay the bills a welcome opportunity presented itself in the form of Sportsman's Warehouse where Scott found himself right at home. As you may have guessed Scott is an avid hunter, angler, archer and all around outdoorsman. After a few years, and a couple of promotions, Scott's wife realized there is no future in retail and the opportunity of a lifetime came along, to work for the state and use his degree. He is looking forward to many years of service and a fruitful retirement. But he remains employed by Sportsman's Warehouse part-time for many reasons that I'm sure I don't have to list.





New Hire - Ryan Gross, Information Technology Specialist, MIS

Hello everyone,

I am originally from Michigan. I have been in AZ since the early 90's doing mostly technical/mechanical work. My friends know me as a Jack of all trades; my history includes rebuilding transmissions to computers.

I am coming from Maricopa County Recorder/Elections, where I was an ASP.NET programmer. I am a sci-fi kinda guy, I also drive a John Deere tractor on my parents Christmas tree farm and can hold my own on the country dance floor. So, if you have a car question, computer question or want to dance let me know.

New Hire - Eder Delgadillo, Agriculture Inspector, PSD

Eder Delgadillo was born in a small town called Concepcion de Buenos Aires, which is near Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. From the age of 5 to age 21 he was raised in the town of Brentwood in Northern California.

After graduating from Liberty High School in 2001, he attended Los Medanos Community College, and then transferred to the University of Idaho. Here he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology. He says that the reason he moved to Idaho was to see how the other end of the political spectrum was like.



Subjects he says he enjoyed while in college are: Culture, Religion, Environment and Archaeology. The summer before his last semester he assisted Dr. Sappington on an archaeological site along the Clearwater River on the Nez Perce Reservation, which later became a Master thesis for a friend. It was his last semester that he learned the art of lithic technology, which has become a hobby for him.

He says the reason he moved to Tucson, Arizona is because he prefers the hot summers and temperate winters; over humid summers and freezing winters. Here in Tucson he and his girlfriend Melissa, also University of Idaho alumni, hope for a new beginning.

H. A. T. S. Off To YOU!



H.A.T.S. Off to the following employees who've exemplified hard work, great attitude and teamwork!

Employee of the Month – Dr. Rick Willer

Dr. Willer will receive a complimentary pair of tickets to Harkins Theatres.

*Dr. Rick Willer,
Arizona's nationally renowned
State Veterinarian*

**H.A.T.S. Winners:
Elizabeth Mower, ACT**

George Glas, Fiscal Services

Update on 2007 Farm Bill: Bill Passes U.S. House

House Passes Farm Bill: Money for Farmers, Low-income nutrition

By Julie Davis
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The Democratic-controlled House passed legislation Friday that combines billions in aid for farmers with money for low-income nutrition programs, defying a veto threat from President Bush over the bill's largesse to crop producers.

The measure, passed on a vote of 231-191, devotes more money to conservation, renewable energy, nutrition and specialty crop programs than in the past but leaves in place - and in some cases increases - subsidies to producers of major crops such as corn and soybeans at a time of record-high prices. It reflected a delicate straddle for Democrats writing their first farm bill in more than a decade, who struggled to balance the needs of first-term, farm-state lawmakers against the demands of liberals seeking more money for environmental and nutrition programs.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said the measure "signals change and shows a new direction in our farm policy," but it fell well short of the changes many in her party had demanded.

"More needs to be done, but we have gone in the right direction for change," Pelosi said in a nearly 15-minute speech in which she defended her support for the measure, which has earned her barbs from some environmental and anti-hunger activists.

Democrats rallied around the bill, however, after debate turned bitterly partisan over a tax measure included to partially finance an increase of some \$4 billion for food stamp and other nutrition programs. The plan would impose new taxes on certain multinational companies with U.S. subsidiaries. Democrats said they were closing a loophole and cracking down on foreign tax-dodgers, while Republicans called it a massive tax hike that would affect manufacturers that provide millions of jobs in their districts. The spat sapped the farm bill of much of its customary bulletproof regional appeal, turning many rural Republicans against the measure.

All but 19 Republicans opposed it, leaving Democrats well short of the margin they would need to override a veto. "This is an unprecedented move to use a farm bill as a vehicle to increase taxes," said Rep. Adam Putnam of Florida, the No. 3 Republican. "We could have put the House imprint on the farm bill, and now it is veto bait, and that is a tragedy."

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said Democrats had narrowed support for farm programs by including the tax measure in the bill. "If there was ever a time when our farm programs needed friends, it is now," he said. The legislation aims to ban subsidies to farmers whose income averages more than \$1 million a year, down from the current limit of \$2.5 million. It also would stop farmers from collecting payments for multiple farm businesses. Still, it includes about \$42 billion in assistance to farmers.

It was approved after Democrats quashed a rebellion from one of their own, Rep. Ron Kind, D-Wis., who teamed with conservative GOP budget hawks and urban and suburban Democrats on an amendment to wean farmers from government payments. It would have imposed stricter income limits on farmers, barring subsidies to those making an average of \$250,000 or more annually, and would have steered more money to conservation, nutrition, specialty crop and rural development programs.

July/August Birthdays

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
July 15 Tony Lucas	16 Jason Brown; Angela Nelson	17	18 Cesar Ruiz	19 Brenda Ball	20 Steven Wells	21 Alexander Belotti; Daniel Hamre
22 David Flores; Diana Partney; Jon Penderghast; Mary Wolslagel	23 Jodi Dav-enport; Jesus Romero; Jean Sanchez	24 Juan Ley; Rusty Vanleuven	25 James Brinegar	26	27 Jim McGinnis	28
29	30	31	Aug. 1	2 Jerry Cranford; Thomas Tsinnie	3	4 Roger Ames
5 Jeff Myers	6 David Williams	7 Jeff Black; Billijo Pihlaja	8	9 Lisa Westcott	10 Elda Walleth	11 Jack Peterson
12	13	14 David Klein	15 Chris Baptista; Tristan Schurman	16 Joe Cannon	17 Larry Bender	18
19	20 Davor Mirolovic	21 Susan Dudas; Francis Head	22	23	24	25 Maruesha Young